

NEWS RELEASE

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FACT SHEET

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATLANTIC COMMAND FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS DURING CUBAN CRISIS

The primary responsibility for the military operations related to the Cuban crisis rests on the shoulders of Admiral R. L. Dennison, USN, in his capacity as Commander in Chief, Atlantic. This command was established by the Secretary of Defense at the direction of the President as a unified command with forces from the Army, Navy, and Air Force to perform all military missions in its area of responsibility. The Atlantic Command includes all of the Atlantic Ocean from pole to pole, the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, and parts of the Indian Ocean and Africa.

Admiral Dennison exercises command of his multi-service forces through senior Army, Navy and Air Force commanders known as component commanders. The Army forces are under the command of General H.B. Powell, USA, Commanding General, Continental Army Command in his capacity as Commander in Chief, Army Forces, Atlantic. General W.C. Sweeney, Jr., USAF, Commander, Tactical Air Command has been assigned additional duty as Commander in Chief, Air Forces, Atlantic.

In addition to his duties as Commander in Chief, Atlantic, Admiral Dennison is also his own Naval component commander, Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. In this capacity he exercises command of Atlantic Fleet quarantine forces through Vice Admiral A. G. Ward, USN, Commander of the U. S. Second Fleet. As Commander in Chief, Atlantic, he exercises command of U. S. - Latin American quarantine forces through Rear Admiral John A. Tyree, USN, Commander, South Atlantic Force. The Fleet Marine Force of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet is under command of Lieutenant General R. B. Luckey, USMC.

Admiral Dennison is also the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, responsible to the NATO organization for co-ordinated command of the Allied Forces allocated by ourselves and our Allies to the defense of the Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer.

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(Photograph available Audio-Visual Division, Room 2-E-789, Pentagon, Oxford 75331)

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART ON REVERSE SIDE

